

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraphs at the end of page 1 (line 29):

A method for reproducing conifers by somatic embryogenesis is disclosed wherein a galactose-containing compound at more than about 1% of the nutrient medium is used as a carbon source for an embryogenic culture during at least one of the steps of induction, proliferation, and prematuration.

A method for reproduction by somatic embryogenesis of *Pinus taeda* and hybrids, *Pinus radiata*, or *Pseudotsuga menziesii* is disclosed wherein a galactose-containing compound at more than about 1% of the nutrient medium is used during at least one of the steps of induction, proliferation, and prematuration.